

TANEYTOWN SENIOR AUTHORS CHILDREN'S STORY



*Carroll
Vista's
Barbara
Childs*

the Monday league is a player on the appropriately named team, "Have Fun". Barbara Childs is the team's lead-off bowler, and it's only fitting to begin this series of senior features with her as a lead-in. A resident of nearby Carroll Vista, Barbara is an exceptionally active individual, with a lot

Thunderhead Bowl and Grill in Taneytown, Maryland has long been a cornerstone for duckpin bowling in the Maryland area. Bowlers outside the immediate vicinity of Thunderhead traditionally referred to the bowling center with the weekend tournaments of the 1980s as simply, "Taneytown".

Always having the feel of a quaint, friendly bowling center whenever a player visited the recreational outlet, it seems quite apparent that the bowling center was not only a reflection of the people who ran the establishment, but more so of the people who actually bowled there.

The Monday Morning Seniors league at "Taneytown" is a prime example of this phenomenon. Each member who comprises the substantial league of 8 teams of triples has his/her own story. And these stories are very much noteworthy. One such member of

going on in her agenda during each week. Staying fit with the bowling and being a member of her garden club meetings, Barbara has an additional sideline that is a most interesting project. She is currently in the process of producing a children's story that she authored to honor St. Patrick's Day, entitled "Lucky Leprechaun". Childs actually wrote the story after a burst of enthusiasm, amazingly, in only one evening while working at her former career as a School Nurse/Instructional Assistant at the Uniontown Elementary School. But a plan for making the story publicly available didn't really develop until after she retired from her job.

Without giving away too much of the plot here, the story is about a mischievous elf who gets involved with a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. The story is intended to be in the format of a mini-book with a series of attractive

illustrations. Barbara has enlisted the services of a talented friend who is an artist, and thus will be providing compelling images to go along with the story, although coordinating a block of time with her friend's busy schedule is one of the challenges that Childs has faced with getting the book finalized. However, it's very close to completion. Barbara is also in contact with a printing company in Thurmont, Maryland to assemble and bind the book, so she's been busy with those meetings, as well. The plan is to have the product ready for a modest distribution by the upcoming St. Patrick's Day of 2023.

As if the book production wasn't enough of a story, a most astonishing event occurred earlier in the autumn of 2022 for Barbara, when she and her husband, Roland, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. A 70-year milestone is undoubtedly remarkable, but what's even more jaw-dropping is that all of the original wedding party, except for the best man, is still around and was present at the celebration!

Oh, and by the way, Childs is no slouch on the lanes either. In the opening week of the 2022-2023 season, Barbara made it on Thunderhead Lanes' "Wall of Fame", with a fabulous 134 game, and her name is still on the Ladies' Leader Board with the closing of the year 2022. Cheers to you, Barbara!